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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\* \* \* *Notices of concerts, and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.*

*We beg to remind our correspondents that all notices of country concerts, whether written or extracted from newspapers, must be accompanied by the name and address of the person who sends them.*

*Our correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes that may occur.*

*We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.*

*Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers that, although the music pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.*

*It is obvious that from the mass of compositions of all grades of merit sent to us for review, only a selection can be made for notice; and we need scarcely say that it would be neither possible nor desirable to inform composers why their works are passed over. This must be a sufficient answer to several correspondents who write to us on the same subject.*

J. H. L.—1. *The "Prisoners' Chorus" commences the Finale to the first act of "Fidelio."* 2. *Mozart's "Ave Verum," published in the Musical Times, is the composition mentioned by our correspondent.*

## Brief Summary of Country News.

*We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.*

**BEDFORD.**—An attractive concert was given by the "Amateur Musical Society" at the Bedford Rooms on the 19th ult., the principal item in the programme being a selection from a new Cantata by Mr. P. H. Diemer, (the conductor of the Society) the theme from which the title of the work is derived being Macaulay's ballad "Ivry." The local papers speak in the highest terms of the merit of the composition; and its success with the audience was most decisive. Haydn's Symphony in D (the 7th of the "Salomon" set) the same composer's descriptive Cantata, "The Tempest," and several songs were also included in the selection. The execution of the choral music throughout the evening was most creditable to the choir.

**BRIGHTON.**—An excellent Concert was recently given by Mr. Walter Newport at the Dome Assembly Rooms, before a numerous audience. The orchestra was one of the largest ever assembled in Brighton, numbering about forty performers, under the skillful leadership of Mr. H. Blagrove. There was also a band of harps, under the direction of Mr. J. Balsir Chatterton and Mr. John Cheshire. The principal vocal solos in the first part were Barnby's song, "The wrecked hope," (so finely sung by Mdlle. Drasdil as narrowly to escape an encore); the "Inflammatus," from Rossini's *Stabat Mater* (given with much spirit by Madame Rudersdorff); a new song by Balfe, "I love thee," (most expressively rendered by Mr. Vernon Rigby, for whom it was composed); and Gounod's "Valley," sung by Herr Carl Stepan with much success. The organ solo by Dr. Wesley (of Gloucester Cathedral), was the great feature of the second part. In every respect this was a treat of the highest order to the lovers of genuine organ playing; and so thoroughly was it appreciated by the audience that, although Dr. Wesley attempted merely to bow his acknowledgments, he was compelled to reseat himself at the instrument and perform a fugue, before his delighted hearers would release him. The programme also included some choral music (sung with much effect by about two hundred singers selected from the "Brighton and Sussex Choral Association,") a harp duet, &c.; and the concert concluded with a successful performance of Mendelssohn's *Walpurgis Night*, the principal parts being assigned to Mdlle. Drasdil, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Herr Carl Stepan. Mr. Kuhé accompanied the solo vocalists, Dr. Wesley presided at the organ, and Mr. Walter Newport conducted.

**CHESHUNT.**—The fourteenth annual meeting of the "Working Men's Association" was held on the 12th ult., at the New Hall, Turner's-hill, on which occasion a concert took place. The principal vocalists were Miss Julia Elton, Miss Blanche Bun, Miss Tritton, Miss Fanny Timson, Miss E. Stuart, Messrs. Frank Gifford, G. Norman and S. G. Holland, all of whom received well-merited applause in their respective solos. Amongst the choruses were the "Chough and Crow," "Sleep, gentle lady," "Sweet and low," &c. Much credit is due to Mr. S. F. Lockwood, the Conductor, for the manner in which he has trained his choir of about 25 voices. Mr. Lodovic presided at the pianoforte.

**COLNBROOK, NEAR WINDSOR.**—Harvest Festival Services took place in St. Thomas's Church on Thursday the 14th ult. The Holy Communion was celebrated at 8 a.m.; morning prayers at nine. A children's service was held at 1 p.m., and Evensong at 5.30 p.m., with full choral service. The clergy and surpliced choir numbered thirty-four. The Rev. W. Greive, M.A. intoned the service, and

the lesson was read by the Rev. Mr. Mayho, of Hillingdon. The tenor solo in Dr. Greene's Anthem, "Thou visitest the earth," was sung by Mr. Radcliff, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Denton, M.A., vicar of St. Bartholomew, Cripplegate. At 7 o'clock 250 persons sat down to tea in the Public Rooms, after which the church choir sang several glees and part-songs. The direction of the music was entrusted to Mr. Richard Radcliff. The proceedings of the evening closed with the National Anthem, the solo by Miss Mary Ratcliff.

**DONCASTER.**—On the 28th September the first concert of the Grammar School Choral Class took place, before a large and appreciative audience. The class is under the direction of Mr. Eyre, Choirmaster of the Parish Church; and although it has not been formed more than three or four months, the young singers displayed on this occasion a very commendable degree of efficiency. The programme was well selected to display the capabilities of the choir in part-music, and several solos, duets and trios were also given with marked success. The concert concluded with the National Anthem.

**DOVER.**—The weekly practices of the Musical Union, under the conductorship of Mr. G. H. Payn, were commenced for the present season (the fifth of the Society's existence) on the 6th ult., and will be continued every Wednesday evening until the end of March, 1870. A portion of Handel's *Judas Macabæus* will be immediately put in rehearsal, together with a selection of sacred music, with a view to giving a concert during the autumn for the benefit of the Dover Hospital. It is also proposed to organise a performance in aid of the Orphan Home for Girls, at Charlton.

**ETON.**—A concert was given in the Hall of Eton College on the 15th ult., by the members of the choir, under distinguished patronage. Miss Emmeline Cole and Mr. Christian were highly successful in all their songs; and the glees and madrigals were well sung by the choir, under the direction of Dr. L. G. Hayne; "Strike the lyre" (Cooke), "Flora gave me" (Wilbye), and "In going to my lonesome bed" (Edwardes), being loudly and deservedly applauded. Messrs. Booth and Mellor also contributed vocal solos with much effect.

**GLASGOW.**—An admirable performance of Handel's *Messiah* was given by the Choral Union at the City Hall on the 14th ult. The principal vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madlle. José Sherrington, Madame Patey-Whytock, Mr. Nelson Varley and Mr. J. G. Patey, all of whom acquitted themselves to the thorough satisfaction of the audience, Madlle. José Sherrington, singing the music assigned to her with much purity of style. The choruses were on the whole most excellently rendered. Chevalier Lemmens presided at the organ, and Mr. Lambeth conducted. On the 28th September, a Service of sacred music was given in the Mechanics' Hall, Canning Street. The programme comprised selections from the works of Handel, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Rossini, Naumann, Gounod, Horsley, and other composers. The choir was select and powerful; and rendered the various choral pieces in excellent style. The solo vocalists were Miss Margaretta Smyth, Miss Turney, Miss Jane Mougou, Mr. Forsyth, Mr. R. M. Walker, Mr. George Brownlee, and Mr. James Allan. Mr. Charles Ferguson ably presided at the harmonium, and Mr. J. R. Livingston officiated as conductor. The whole proceeds are to be devoted to effecting various repairs and improvements in the fabric of Christ Church, the services of all concerned, having been kindly given gratuitously.

**GOSPORT.**—The opening Concert of the Literary and Scientific Institution was given on the 4th ult. by Mr. Ellis Roberts (Harpist to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales), assisted by Miss Ellen Garville and Miss A. Newton. The harp solos were highly effective, especially "Recollections of Erin;" and Miss Ellen Garville and Miss Newton received the warmest applause for their songs, two of which were encores.

**GREAT YARMOUTH.**—At the close of the weekly meeting of the Yarmouth Musical Society, on the 20th September, Mrs. F. Frere, on behalf of the members, presented Mr. Stonex, the Conductor, with a chaste gold-mounted ivory *bâton*, and an inlaid walnut music-stand, as a token of their appreciation of his valuable services. The *bâton* bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. H. Stonex by the Members of the Musical Society, 1869." Mr. Stonex, who stated that he was agreeably taken by surprise, expressed in suitable words his hearty thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

**GREENWICH.**—The first of a series of concerts, was given in the Lecture Hall, on Monday the 4th ult., by Mr. F. Thornton. The principal vocalists were Miss Fanny Holland, Mr. Orlando Christian, and Mr. Wallace Wells, R.A.M., all of whom were very successful in the pieces selected for performance. The Hall was well filled by a very appreciative audience.

**HARROGATE.**—The longest musical season ever known in Harrogate terminated on Saturday the 9th ult. During the twenty-one weeks in which Mr. Julian Adams has presided over the excellent band which he has so carefully trained, the interest of the visitors has never flagged; the closing concert being one of the best attended and most successful of the series. During the performances examples have been given of the best works of the most eminent masters; and it is but justice to say that Mr. Julian Adams has done more than any one to establish a musical reputation for the Spa Room.

**HAYLE, CORNWALL.**—The new public buildings in this town were opened on September 23rd, with a very successful Concert, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Nunn, A.R.A. The pro-

gramme consisted of a miscellaneous selection of vocal and instrumental chamber music, including Mozart's Clarinet Quintett, a quartett of Haydn's, a violin solo by Vieuxtemps, a clarinet solo by Lazarus, and a Reverie for the violoncello by August van Biene. The vocal music also offered several attractions, comprising, amongst other pieces, songs by Sullivan, Hatton and Bishop. The performers were Messrs. W. C. Hemmings and Vingoe (violins), H. A. Smith (clarinet), J. H. Nunn (viola), and Marrack (violoncello); Mrs. Nunn, the Misses Mitchell, and Messrs. Sampson and Douglas, vocalists.

**HEREFORD.**—The Michaelmas special meeting of the Hereford Choral Society was held in the College-Hall, on Wednesday evening the 13th ult., under the able conductorship of Mr. Townshend Smith. The attendance was very good, few seats being vacant. The whole of the pieces were well rendered, and reflected great credit on the performers and their conductor. Of the solos those which received encores were "Leoline," (tenor song), by the Rev. A. Robinson; "Rage thou angry storm," (bass song) by Mr. J. Swire, of the College; and the cornet solo, "Il mio tesoro," (Don Giovanni) by Mr. Jones, late bandmaster of the Hereford Volunteer Rifle Corps. The bass song by the Rev. W. D. V. Duncombe, "If doughty deeds," was loudly applauded; as were also the soprano song, "Love the Pilgrim," and the contralto ballad "When night is darkest," by the Misses Broad. Several part-songs were also given with much success.

**HUDDERSFIELD.**—A Harvest Thanksgiving and Dedication Festival took place at St. John's Church, on Thursday, September 20th. In the morning there was a celebration of the Holy Communion; and Evensong at half-past seven, when an able and practical sermon was delivered by the Rev. S. Vaughan, M.A., Vicar of St. Mark's, Dewsbury. The chanting of the Psalms was remarkably good; and the responses by Tallis, Dr. Wesley's Chant Services, and the Anthem, "O praise the Lord of Heaven," by John Goss, were also exceedingly well rendered. The choir of St. John's was assisted by those of St. Thomas and Christ Church, and the procession of choristers and clergy numbered nearly one hundred. The music was under the direction of Mr. Todd, choir-master; and Mr. J. Varley presided at the organ. The church was filled with an attentive congregation.

**KETERING.**—On Thursday, the 21st ult., a Concert was given in the Corn Exchange, under the management of Mr. Brook Sampson, the Organist of the Parish Church; the vocalists being Miss Hargreaves and Mr. Dodds, both of whom are well known to the musical world around Leeds. The programme was well selected; and amongst the vocal music, one or two trios, in which Miss Hargreaves and Mr. Dodds were assisted by a Mr. Ramirez, were highly effective. The instrumental performances included two pianoforte solos, given with much skill and feeling by Mr. Brook Sampson, and two duets for harp and pianoforte. The harpist, Mr. T. Dodds, made his first appearance in Kettering, and created a genuine effect. The concert was in every respect highly successful.

**KING'S LYNN.**—On Wednesday the 13th ult., a handsome solid silver Salver, was presented by the Philharmonic Society to Mr. Jno. Bray, the leader of the Society since its formation. The testimonial was given at Mr. Bray's establishment, by S. A. Gurney Esq., the President, and two or three members of the committee. The salver is 12 inches in diameter, and is richly embossed: it bears the simple inscription "Presented to Mr. Jno. Bray by the Lynn Philharmonic Society, October 1869."

**LIVERPOOL.**—The Philharmonic Society inaugurated its Autumn session with an interesting Concert, which took place on the 19th ult., and was mainly devoted to the performance of Rossini's *Messe Solennelle*. The principal executants were Madlle. Titens, Madame Scalchi, Signor Mongini, and Mr. Santley.

**MOULTON, NORTHAMPTON.**—On Tuesday, the 5th ult., a Harvest Festival was held in the Parish Church. The service was wholly choral; and the choirs of Brampton, Boughton, Pitsford and Holcot, took part in it. The service commenced with the Processional Hymn, "Onward, Christian soldiers," which was sung as the choirs and clergy entered the church. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. C. F. Alderson, Rector of Holdenby. The psalms were sung to chants respectively by Turle, Turton and Walond; and the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* to Gregorian tones. This was followed by Goss's anthem, "I will magnify Thee, O God," which was somewhat beyond the powers of the choir. The first and concluding hymns were creditably sung, but would have been far better had the boys' voices been more subdued. Much praise is due to the amateur organist and deputy organist of the place, for the great pains which had evidently been bestowed on the Moulton Choir. Mr. M'Korkell presided on this occasion at the organ.

**PENZANCE.**—An Evening Concert was given in St. John's Hall, on September 28th, by the united Penzance and Camborne Choral Societies. The first part of the programme consisted of Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, which was exceedingly well performed. Mr. Sampson's rendering of "Cujus animam" deserves especial comment; and the trying bass air and chorus, "Eia mater," was excellently given, without accompaniment (the pitch being well maintained), Captain Douglas taking the solo part. Miss Woodcock and Mrs. Nunn sang the principal soprano and alto parts with great success. The second part opened with the "Hailstone Chorus," from *Israel*, followed by, "But as for his people," and "Thy right hand, O Lord," from the same work. The Misses Mitchell, of Camborne fully maintained their reputation by their

rendering of the duet, "I waited for the Lord," from the *Lobgesang*; and the audience insisted upon its repetition. Several other pieces were also given with much effect. The choirs, with the orchestral band, numbered about 200. Mr. J. H. Nunn, the instructor of both Societies, conducted; Mr. W. C. Hemmings led the band; and Mr. R. White presided at the organ.

**POONA (BOMBAY).**—A series of Penny Readings have been given at this military station, principally for the amusement of the soldiers. They have been held at intervals of a fortnight for the past three months, and have been very successful. His Excellency Lord Napier, the late Commander-in-Chief, showed a great interest in these meetings, and was present at most of them. The entertainments consist of readings in prose and poetry, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music. At the meeting held at the Assembly Rooms, on Friday, the 3rd September, the concerted music was performed entirely by the Poona Glee and Madrigal Union, a very excellent selection of glees, &c., being provided. All the pieces were most effectively given, under the able direction of Mr. C. G. Swanseger, Organist of St. Paul's Church. The glees were relieved by two songs, "The sea is England's glory," and "My heart is on the Rhine," the former being encored. The room was crowded to the doors.

**SCARBOROUGH.**—On the 28th of September, an interesting choral festival was held in St. Martin's Church. The voices numbered 250, including part of the York Minster choir. The anthem was Ouseley's "And it came even to pass," which was extremely well sung. Dr. Monk was the conductor, and Dr. R. Sloman, the newly appointed organist of St. Martin's, accompanied. The Archbishop of York preached the sermon.

**SHEFFIELD.**—On Monday evening, the 4th ult., Miss Anderton, a promising young vocalist, gave a miscellaneous concert in the Burngreave Vestry Hall. The principal artists were Miss Anderton, Miss Twigg, Mr. Rowbotham and Mr. H. J. Cawton. All the performers gave much satisfaction, more especially Miss Twigg and Miss Anderton, both ladies being frequently encored. The concert, which was the first given by Miss Anderton, was a complete success. Mr. Moxey ably presided at the pianoforte.

**ST. BEES.**—The Parish Church, which is now thoroughly restored, and to which several important additions have been made, was formally re-opened on the 24th September, when Mr. P. T. Freeman, Organist of Crosthwaite Church, gave a performance on the new organ, built by Messrs. Hill and Son, of London, at a cost of upwards of £400. The programme was well selected to display the varied capabilities of the instrument; and the playing of Mr. Freeman (especially in a Prelude and Fugue by Bach) is spoken of in the highest terms by the local papers.

**SYDNEY.**—The principal recent musical events here have been a performance organised for the benefit of the aged teacher, M. Guillaume Jonson, and Mr. Horsley's farewell concert, at the Victoria Rooms. A feature in the first-mentioned entertainment was a duet for two pianofortes, on airs from *Faust*, played with marvellous effect by Messrs. Horsley and Packer. Mr. Greenfield was also highly successful in a violin fantasia; and Madame Ida Russell, Miss Fleming and Signor Devoti contributed vocal solos, which were most deservedly applauded. Mr. Horsley, at his own concert, played Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in G minor, with orchestral accompaniments (its first performance in Australia), which produced a marked effect. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Corder, Mrs. Hildebrand, Miss James, Signor Devoti and Mr. Fairfax.

**THETFORD, NORFOLK.**—Two Harvest Thanksgiving Services were celebrated in S. Cuthbert's Church, on Thursday, the 30th September, with much success. The church was most artistically decorated with evergreens, corn, cut flowers, growing plants, fruits, banners and emblematical devices. The clergy and choristers, numbering between fifty and sixty, in surplices and full canonicals, assembled at the Vicarage, and walked in procession to the church, singing the Hymn, "Come, ye thankful people, come." The prayers were intoned by the Rev. W. Bentley (the Vicar) and the Rev. W. Plows. The Confession, Preces and Responses were Tallis's. The festal psalms were chanted to Crotch, Cooke and Woodward. A very effective harvest anthem, "O come hither, and behold the works of God" (composed expressly for these services by the Organist, Mr. Alexander Phipps), was admirably rendered by the choir. The *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* were sung to Dr. Clarke Whitfield's Service in E, with commendable precision. The Hymn before the Sermon was "We plough the fields." After the Benediction, at the evening service, the Recessional Hymn 224, was sung as the choir left the chancel. The Voluntaries were—March from *Eli* (Sir M. Costa); Overture, *Occasional Oratorio* (Handel); selection from C. M. von Weber's Mass in G; March from *Martyrdom of St. Polycarp* (trumpet solo, Mr. Browne), by the Rev. Sir F. Gore Ouseley. The musical arrangements were under the entire direction of Mr. Alexander Phipps, who ably presided at the organ, and is entitled to much credit for the success of the Festival.

**TOTTENHAM.**—A concert was given at the Lecture Hall on the 16th ult., which was well attended. The vocalists were Miss Blanche Reeves, Mr. Percival, and Mr. O. Christian. Many of the songs were encored.

**TRURO.**—The opening of the new Public Buildings took place on the 10th and 11th ult., when a series of concerts, was given which proved highly successful. The programme for the first evening

comprised the *Creation*, some double choruses from Handel's works, and the "Cujus animam." The solo parts were taken by Madame Florence Lancia, Mr. G. Perren, and Mr. Lander, all of whom were thoroughly effective in the music allotted to them. On Tuesday morning an organ performance was given by Mr. Best, of Liverpool. The programme contained Handel's C major Concerto, a prelude and fugue of Bach's, with other selections from ancient and modern composers. We need scarcely say that in the interpretation of these works Mr. Best fully sustained his deservedly high reputation. The Tuesday evening's concert commenced with Dr. Bennett's *May Queen*, of which a tolerably creditable performance was given. The choruses on the whole went well, and Mr. Lander was very successful in "Tis jolly to hunt," which was encored. The *May Queen* was followed by Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in G minor, which was excellently played by Mrs. R. H. Carter. The violoncello solo in the *Andante* was carefully rendered by Mr. Nunn, of Penzance. After the concerto a selection of operatic songs and choruses was given. Mr. Hele conducted on the first day, Mr. Trembath, Mus. Bac., on the second; Mr. W. C. Hemmings, of Penzance, leading the band throughout. We understand that the performances were financially, as well as musically, a success.

**WELSHPOOL.**—An Amateur Concert was given on the 5th ult., in aid of the funds of the Dispensary, under the management of Dr. R. Sloman, which was in every way successful. The Earl and Countess of Mar, Mrs. General Scott, Lady Napier, Miss Younge, and other talented amateurs took part.

**WINDSOR.**—On Monday, the 4th ult., Mr. Edmund Rogers, organist of Holy Trinity Church, gave a Concert at St. Mark's School, being the first musical entertainment of the season. The programme commenced with Rossini's overture to "L'Italiana in Algeri," which was well played by the band, under the conductorship of Mr. Rogers. Amongst the most prominent vocal solos were "Salve! dimora," and "The Message," (Blumenthal) sung by Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mrs. Sidney Smith's "Cradle Song" (Spohr), violoncello obbligato, Mr. T. Hill. Mr. Edmund Rogers was a most able accompanist. At a trial of selected candidates, which took place at St. George's Chapel on September the 28th., Mr. B. Ramsbottom, was appointed to succeed the late Mr. Bridgewater, to the vacant stall in the choir. Several anthems were sung by each candidate. Mr. Halliwell, of York Minster, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Ramsbottom, in the choir of New College, Oxford.

**ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.**—Mr. Fred. Stevenson, late of Nottingham, Organist and Choirmaster to St. Peter's Church, Forest-hill.—Mr. W. W. Pearson to the Parish Church, Elmham, Norfolk.—Mr. T. H. Ellis (of the Parish Church, Aldershot) to the Parish Church, Westerham, Kent.—Mr. Edward J. White, Organist and Choirmaster to Kinsale, Co. Cork, Ireland.—Mr. Theodore H. Barnett, to St. John's Wood Congregational Church.—Mr. W. H. Chignell, Organist and Choirmaster to the Parish Church, Leighton Buzzard.—Mr. Alfred Kenningham, Organist and Choirmaster to the Mariners' Church, Hull.—Mr. W. J. Christopher, to the Parish Church, Hartlip, Kent.—Mr. Joseph M. Jones, to St. Matthias, Earl's Court, Kensington.—Mr. Edward W. Bradley, Organist and Choirmaster to St. Silas' Lozells, Birmingham.—Mr. J. Aldous (of Norwich), Organist and Choirmaster to the Parish Church, Ruabon, North Wales, and to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart. M.P., Wynnstay.

**CHOIR APPOINTMENTS.**—Mr. W. R. Young (Alto), to be Lay Vicar of Chichester Cathedral.—Mr. Albert James, principal Tenor to All Saints' Church, Margaret-street.

#### MUSIC AND INSTRUMENTS.—NOVEMBER SALE.

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My heart is free. Song	...	1	6
Those eyes which beam. Song	...	1	6
Now fate, alas, has parted. Trio	...	0	9

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